

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
L-03 /052 W

-----068893 280708Z /15

R 270900Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9048
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PINT ELAB BG
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES STRIKES CONTINUE

REF: DACCA 2542

1. LOWER LEVEL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE CONTINUING
TO OBSERVE A PEN DOWN STRIKE FOR TWO HOURS A DAY, BUT
THE ENDING TIME OFFEN RUNS PAST 1. P.M. TO THE REGULAR
2. P.M. CLOSING OF THE OFFICES. AS A RESLUT, THE FLOW OF
BUSINESS, NEVER A RAPID MATTER HERE, IS SLOWED EVEN MORE
WHILE CLASS I OFFICIALS AND THEIR VISITORS ARE HAMPERED BY
SUCH THINGS AS WALKS TO THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE NINE
STORY MAIN SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS AND BEING STRANDED AT
OTHER POINTS WHEN DRIVERS REFUSE TO OPERATE VEHICLES.
SEVERAL OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT RELIEF IS IN SIGHT
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AND AN AD HOC ADJUSTMENT WILL BE MADE.

2. THERE MAY BE SOME RELIEF IN THE STRIKE OF DOCTORS,
ENGINEERS AND OTHER TECHNICAL STAFF. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
NATIONAL SECURITY INTELIIGENCE, WHO IS MONITORING CAREFULLY
THE SITUATION, TOLD THE POLCOUNSELOR, APRIL 27, THAT
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES HAD ACCEPTED AN

INTERIM PROPOSAL AT A MEETING LATE APRIL 26. NO SIGN OF
THIS ACCEPTANCE IS YET VISIBLE BUT IT MAY TAKE HOLD IN
A DAY OR TWO.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE INCONVENIENCE AND THE HINDRANCE TO
THE WORKING OF THE BDG, THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE PROBLEMS
CREATED BY THE ACTION OF THE EMPLOYEES AND THE BDG. FIRST,
THE AD HOC SETTLEMENTS HAVE SHOWN THAT THE BDG IS SUBJECT
TO PRESSURE FROM ITS EMPLOYEES. SEVERAL OFFICIALS WE HAVE
TALKED WITH BELIEVE A GENERAL ADJUSTMENT SHOULD BE MADE
WITH THE SCRAPPING OF THE REPORT OF THE PAY AND SERVICES
COMMISSION AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW COMMISSION AFTER
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. SECOND, LABOR DIFFICULTIES AT
THE TIME THE PRESIDENT IS ENTERING AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN
COULD HARM HIS CHANCES ESPECIALLY IN THE KEY CITY OF DACCA
WHERE THE CONCENTRATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IS, OF COURSE,
THE GREATEST. THRID, AND RELATED TO THE SECOND, THE ELECTION
MACHINERY WILL REQUIRE ALMOST 200,000 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES,
MAINLY OF CLASSES II AND III, TO MAN ELECTION BOOTHS.
HOSTILITY OF THESE ELECTION OFFICERS COULD ENDANGER THE
PRESIDENT.

4. THE PROSPECT SEEMS TO BE FOR ADDITIONAL AD HOC
ARRANGEMENTS AND, POSSIBLY, THE PROMISE OF A
NEW COMMISSION AFTER THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.
SCHNEIDER
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NNN

Message Attributes

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